



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1362.7 - Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, May 2010

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 18/05/2010

## Summary

### Contents

#### CONTENTS

Some chapters were released in previous issues of Regional Statistics, Northern Territory and are noted accordingly. To return to the latest issue after viewing these chapters select the 'View latest issue' link on the left hand navigator panel.



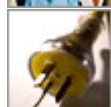
#### **Geography Used**

Includes: **Geography Used in this Publication**



#### **Population** (released in Nov 2009)

Includes: **Northern Territory Population Growth ~ Population Estimates ~ Births and Deaths ~ Population Characteristics**



#### **Environment** (released in Nov 2009)

Includes: **Northern Territory Climate ~ Environmental Views and Behaviour of Territorians ~ Energy Use and Production**



#### **Health and Safety** (released in Mar 2010)

Includes: **Offences by Region ~ Health ~ Safety**



#### **Employment, Education and Training** (released in Mar 2010)

Includes: **Northern Territory Regional Labour Force ~ Employment ~ Education and Training**



#### **Economic Activity**

Includes: **Northern Territory Building Completions ~ Economic Activity**

### In this issue

#### NOTES

#### FORTHCOMING ISSUES

#### **ISSUE (QUARTER)**

August 2010

#### **Release Date**

27 August 2010

#### ROUNDING

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## **INQUIRIES**

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

## **Geography Used**



### **GEOGRAPHY USED**

#### **GEOGRAPHY USED IN THIS PUBLICATION**

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory (cat. no. 1362.7) presents data using two classification structures from the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0) – the Main Structure and the Local Government Area Structure.

##### **ASGC Main Structure**

In the NT the Main Structure comprises two Statistical Divisions (SDs), Darwin SD and Northern Territory - Bal. These in turn are made up of a number of Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs), which are further broken down into Statistical Local Areas (SLAs). The number of SSDs and SLAs depends on the particular edition being used. Maps of these areas are available from the relevant edition of the ASGC.

##### **ASGC Local Government Area Structure**

The Local Government Area (LGA) Structure covers legally designated areas over which incorporated local governing bodies have responsibility. Maps of these areas are available from the NT Government's Local Government Boundaries webpage. The SLAs which cover unincorporated areas (excluding Off-Shore Areas and Migratory) in the NT are:

- East Arm which is on Darwin Rates Act Area land
- Finnis-Mary
- Alyangula and Nhulunbuy where both townships come under a Special Purpose Lease
- Yulara which is owned by private interests.

## **Economic Activity**

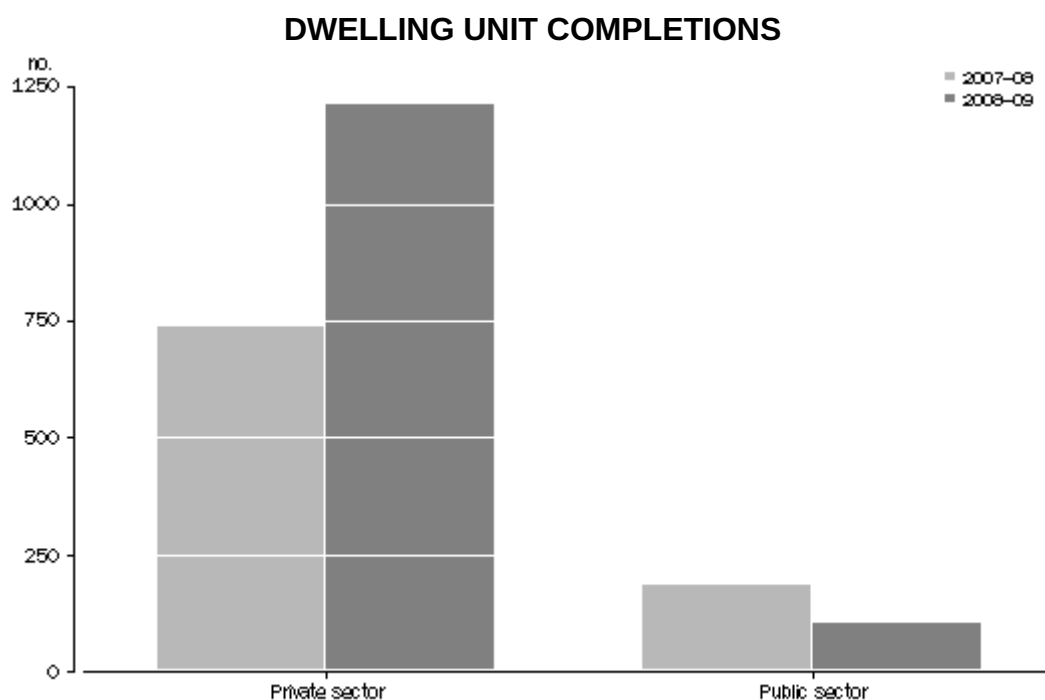


### **ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

#### **NORTHERN TERRITORY BUILDING COMPLETIONS**

The total number of dwelling unit completions rose by 42% in the NT from 923 dwellings in 2007–08 to 1,315 in 2008–09. The number of private sector dwelling completions rose by 64% from 738 to 1,213 while the number of public sector dwelling completions fell

by 45% from 184 to 102.



Source: *Building Activity, Australia, Sep 2009* (cat. no. 8752.0)

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

### Description of data available

### Link to data

Consumer Price Index, % change, Darwin, Mar Qtr 2010  
 Average cost of a basket of goods, by selected areas  
 Average unleaded petrol prices, by selected areas, NT  
 Public housing, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2007-08 to 2008-09  
 Housing occupancy and costs, NT, 2007-08  
  
 Weekly rent, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006  
 Weekly loan repayments, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006  
 Building approvals, by Statistical Local Area, NT, 2007-08 to 2008-09  
  
 Building completions, by sector, NT, 2007-08 to 2008-09  
 Building activity, NT, Sep 2009  
  
 Engineering construction, value of work done, NT, Dec 2009

Consumer Price Index, Australia, Mar Qtr 2010 (cat. no. 6401.0)  
 NT Treasury, Grocery Price Survey webpage  
 FUELtrac petrol prices, Australian Automobile Association website  
 Public Housing, Northern Territory, by Statistical Subdivision, 2007-08 to 2008-09  
 Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2007-08 (cat. no. 4130.0)  
 Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue (cat. no. 1362.7)  
 Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue (cat. no. 1362.7)  
 Building Approvals, Australia, Feb 2010 (cat. no. 8731.0) – refer to NT, SLA Excel datacube, 2007-08 and NT, SLA Excel datacube, 2008-09  
 Building Completions, by Sector, Northern Territory, 2007-08 to 2008-09  
 Building Activity, Australia, Sep 2009 (cat. no. 8752.0)  
 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, Dec 2009 (cat. no. 8762.0) – refer to table 31

Import of goods, NT, 2007–08 to 2008–09	Import of Goods, Northern Territory: Customs Value–2007–08 to 2008–09
Export of goods, NT, 2007–08 to 2008–09	Export of Goods, Northern Territory: Value (f.o.b.)–2007–08 to 2008–09
Gross State Product, chain volume measures, NT, 2008–09	Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2008–09 (Reissue) (cat. no. 5220.0) – refer to table 1
Businesses, NT, Jun 2003 to Jun 2007	Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2003 to Jun 2007 (cat. no. 8165.0)
Weekly personal income, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006	Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue (cat. no. 1362.7)
Taxation revenue, NT, 2007–08	Taxation Revenue, Australia, 2007–08 (cat. no. 5506.0) – refer to tables 8 and 17
Government finance, NT, Dec Qtr 2009	Government Finance Statistics, Australia, Dec Qtr 2009 (cat. no. 5519.0.55.001)
Government finance, NT, 2008–09	Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 2008–09 (cat. no. 5512.0)

---

## View latest issue

View the latest issue of Regional Statistics, Northern Territory (cat. no. 1362.7).

## About this Release

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, presents a wide range of statistics about the Northern Territory and its regions. Information is presented by topic-based chapters, with most chapters containing a mix of Excel spreadsheets and links to ABS and non-ABS statistics to provide an indication of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. The links also enable readers to explore particular topics in more detail. Topics are updated annually on a rolling basis as follows: November issue - Population, Environment and Geography; March issue - Health & Safety and Employment, Education & Training; May issue - Economic Activity; August issue - Tourism and Primary Production. Each issue is supported by a feature article and Explanatory Notes.

## Housing Costs for Northern Territorians on a par with other Australians (Feature Article)



### FEATURE ARTICLE

On this page:

Households that own their home outright

Households that own their home with a mortgage

## **HOUSING COSTS FOR NORTHERN TERRITORIANS ON A PAR WITH OTHER AUSTRALIANS**

As for most Australians, the provision of housing for Territorians and their families involves substantial expenditure throughout most of their lives. Housing costs are often the largest regular expense to be met from household income.

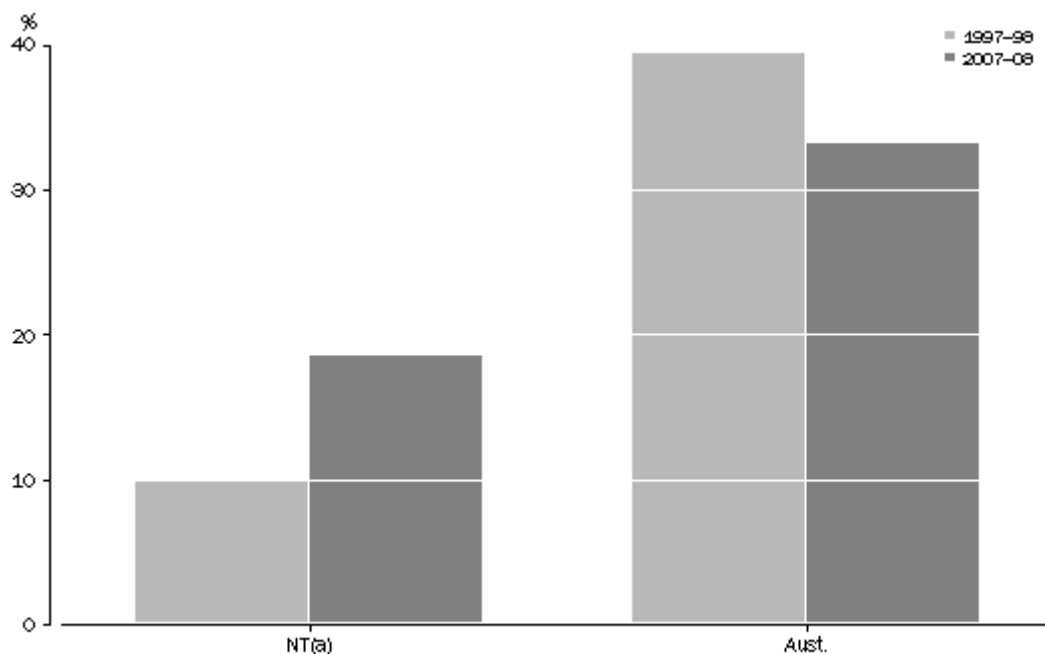
This article examines changes in tenure type over the ten years to 2007–08, and differences in tenure type across NT Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) in 2006. Tenure type describes whether a dwelling is rented, owned outright or owned with a mortgage. It also examines housing costs as a proportion of gross income for NT households that own or rent their home and finds that housing costs for Territorians in 2007–08 were generally on a par with those incurred by households elsewhere in Australia when measured as a proportion of gross income, regardless of tenure type.

For the purposes of the analysis in this article, housing costs are defined as the sum of rent payments, rate payments (water and general) and mortgage or unsecured loan payments (if the initial purpose of the loan was primarily to buy, add or alter the dwelling). NT households in very remote areas are excluded from the analysis presented except in SSD comparisons. Households with nil or negative income are also excluded from calculations of housing costs as a proportion of gross income.

### **Households that own their home outright**

Between 1997–98 and 2007–08, the proportion of households in the NT that owned their home without a mortgage increased from 10% to 19%. Over the same period, the proportion of households that owned their home outright nationally declined from 40% to 33%, but remained significantly higher than the NT proportion.

## **HOUSEHOLDS THAT OWNED THEIR HOME WITHOUT A MORTGAGE AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS**



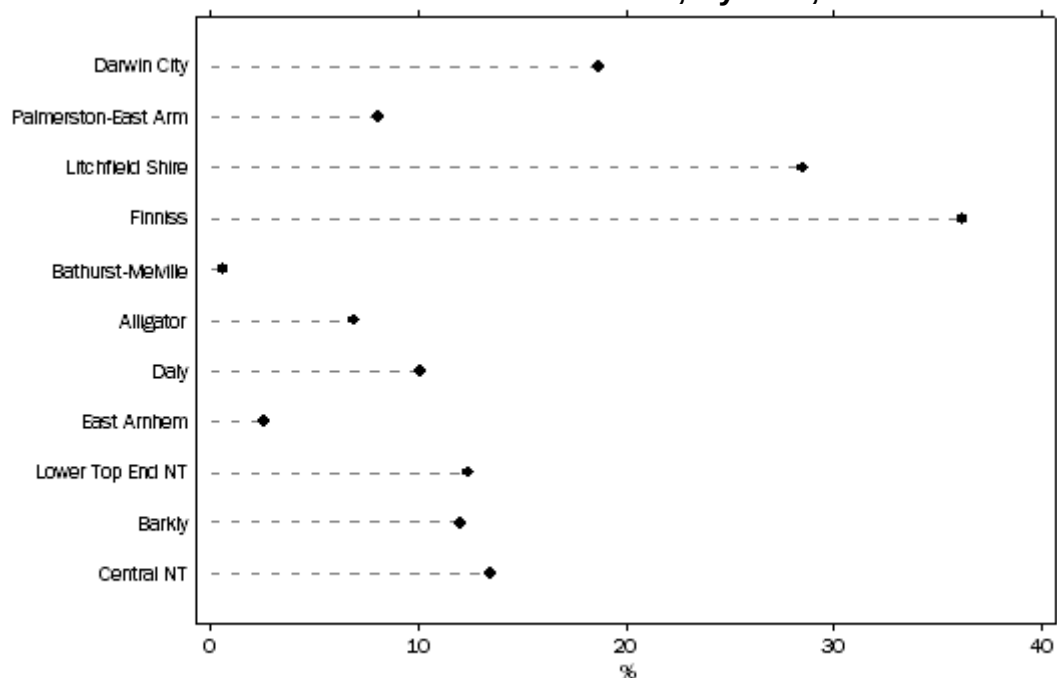
(a) Excludes households in very remote areas of the NT.

Source: *Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2007-08* (cat.no. 4130.0)

[Back to top](#)

According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, the proportion of occupied private dwellings in the NT that were owned without a mortgage ranged from a low of 1% of all occupied private dwellings in Bathurst-Melville SSD to a high of 36% in Finnis SSD.

### DWELLINGS OWNED WITHOUT A MORTGAGE AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, By SSD, 2006



Source: *Census of Population and Housing, 2006*

NT households that owned their home without a mortgage spent on average about 2% of their gross income on housing costs in 2007-08. This was the same proportion spent by households that owned their home outright in all states and territories except New South Wales where this type of household spent an average of 3% of their gross income on housing costs.

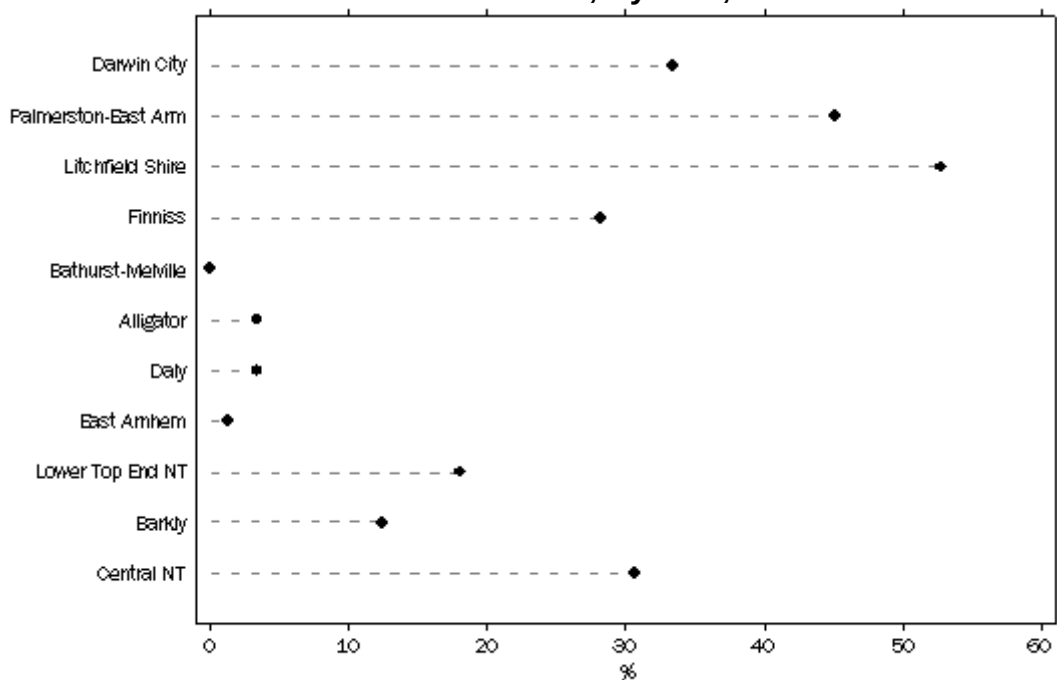
### Households that own their home with a mortgage

In 2007–08 about 38% of NT households owned their home with a mortgage, about the same proportion as in 1997–98 (39%), and similar to the proportion of households that owned with a mortgage nationally (35%).

According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, NT SSDs with the highest proportion of occupied private dwellings owned with a mortgage were Litchfield Shire at 53% of all occupied private dwellings in that region, followed by Palmerston-East Arm at 45%. In contrast, no occupied private dwellings were owned with a mortgage in Bathurst-Melville and very few were owned with a mortgage in East Arnhem (1%).

[Back to top](#)

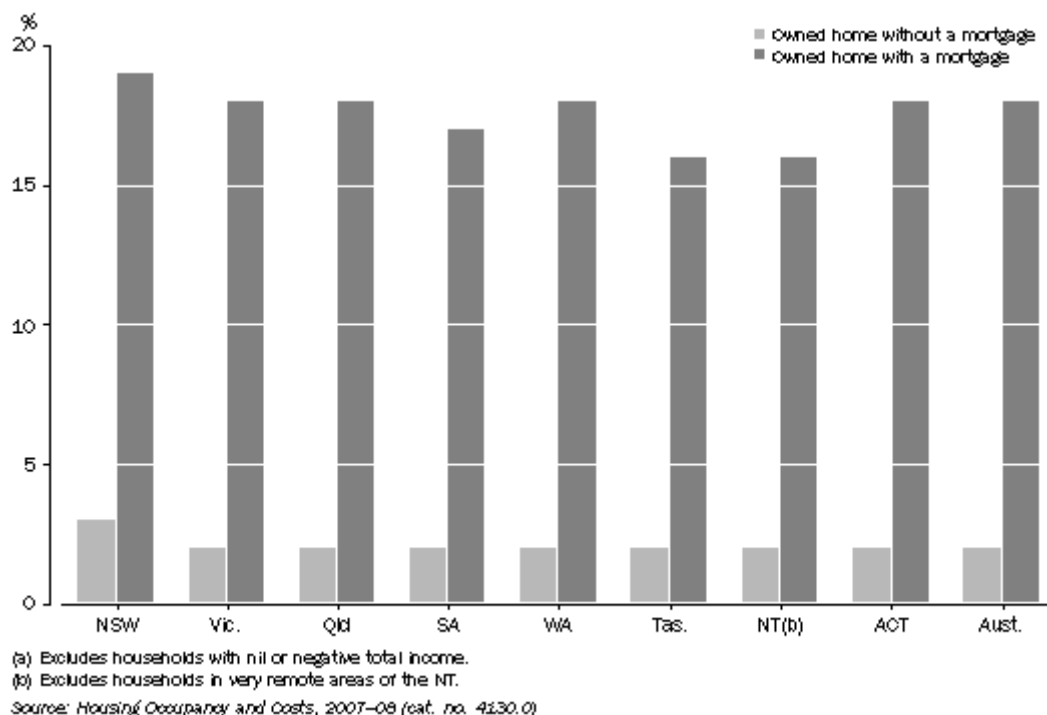
### DWELLINGS OWNED WITH A MORTGAGE AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, By SSD, 2006



Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006

NT households that owned their home with a mortgage spent on average about 16% of their gross income on housing costs in 2007–08. Households that owned their home with a mortgage in the other states and the Australian Capital Territory incurred similar housing costs as a proportion of gross income, ranging between 16% and 19%.

### HOUSEHOLD HOUSING COSTS AS A PROPORTION OF GROSS INCOME(a), 2007–08

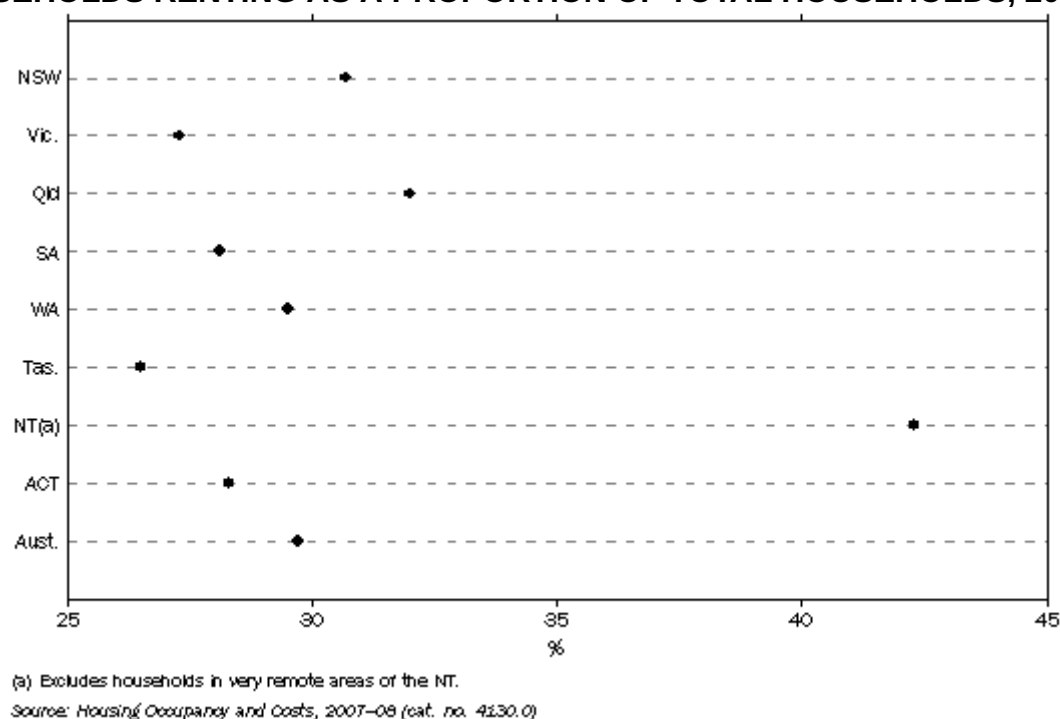


[Back to top](#)

## Households that rent their home

In 2007-08 about 42% of all households in the NT were renting. This was at least 10 percentage points higher than for any other state and the Australian Capital Territory.

### HOUSEHOLDS RENTING AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS, 2007-08

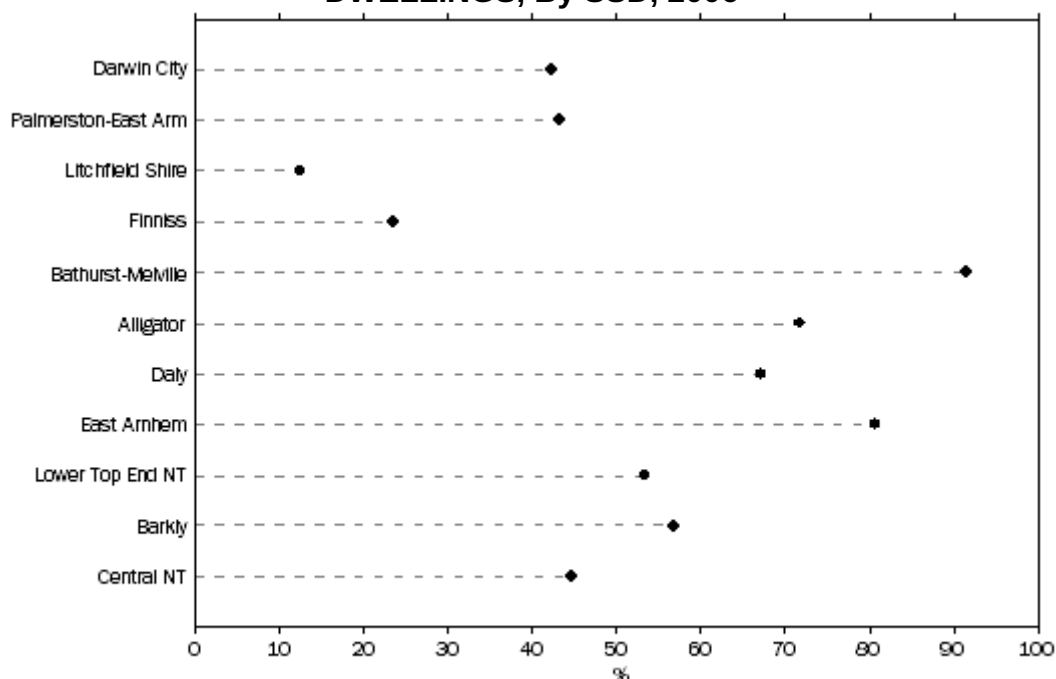


According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 92% of all occupied private dwellings in Bathurst-Melville SSD were being rented. This was the highest proportion of dwellings being rented for any NT SSD. Litchfield Shire SSD had the lowest proportion of dwellings being rented at 13% of all private dwellings in that region, followed by Finnis SSD



with 23%.

### RENTED DWELLINGS AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, By SSD, 2006



Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006

On average, NT households that rented spent about 16% of their gross income on housing costs in 2007–08. Households that rented in the other states and the Australian Capital Territory incurred similar costs as a proportion of gross income, except in New South Wales where households that rented spent an average of 19% of their gross income on housing costs.

[Back to top](#)

#### Further information

Further information on housing occupancy and costs can be found in Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2007–08 (cat. no. 4130.0).

## Explanatory Notes

### Explanatory Notes

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory (cat. no. 1362.7) contains data on the Northern Territory (NT) from both the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and non-ABS sources. These sources are referenced within the publication.

The Explanatory Notes in this publication are not in the form found in other ABS publications. For further information about the data in this publication, please refer to the Explanatory Notes tab of the relevant ABS publication, and to the Glossary or data source for non-ABS data.

The inclusion of non-ABS data and links to external websites does not constitute either an endorsement or a recommendation by the ABS of this material. The ABS takes reasonable care in linking to external websites but has no direct control over the content of the linked sites, nor the changes that may occur to the content on those sites. For further information please refer to the disclaimer notice on the ABS website.

## Glossary

### GLOSSARY

**DEEWR small area labour force estimates** - The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) derives small area labour market estimates based on the Structure Preserving Estimation methodology. Estimates are derived from three major primary data sources - Centrelink data, ABS labour force data and 2006 Census of Population and Housing labour force data. The data in this publication is from the smoothed series (original data averaged over four quarters). For further information please refer to DEEWR's Small Area Labour Markets webpage.

**Government Employee Housing** - Housing provided through the Government Employee Housing program, which is a service through Territory Housing that provides accommodation for eligible Northern Territory Government employees.

**Power and Water customer** - For the purposes of the statistical information that Power and Water Corporation collects, the term 'customer' applies to the number of services. For electricity, one customer is the equivalent of one installation (a property where one or more electricity meters have been installed). For water, one customer is the equivalent of one water meter (the device that records consumption). Customers include residential, commercial and government users.

**Public housing applications** - The Statistical Subdivision (SSD) in which an applicant submits a public housing application is used to measure the demand for housing in that area regardless of where the applicant wishes to live.

**Vocational Education and Training (VET) clients** - Client figures refer to the number of individuals enrolled in courses or modules with each client being counted only once regardless of the number of courses or modules they may be enrolled in.

**Vocational Education and Training (VET) course enrolments** - Course enrolment figures exclude students enrolled in module only activity. Students enrolled in more than one course are counted more than once in course enrolment figures.

## Abbreviations

### ABBREVIATIONS

\$'000	thousand dollars
\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory

ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
Bal	Balance
C	City
cat. no.	catalogue number
CGC	Community Government Council
DEEWR	Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
f.o.b.	free on board
GWh	gigawatt hour
kL	kilolitre
km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometre
kWh	kilowatt hour
LGA	Local Government Area
MCEETYA	Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs
ML	megalitre
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt hour
no.	number
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Pt	Part
Qld	Queensland
qtr	quarter
S	Shire
SA	South Australia
SD	Statistical Division
SLA	Statistical Local Area
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
T	Town
Tas.	Tasmania
VET	Vocational Education and Training
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

---

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence